

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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R 251621Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4211

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12488

EXDIS

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR CY TU UK

SUBJ: CYPRUS: TURK REFUGEES IN SBA

RE LONDON 12247 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: BRITISH ARE HOLDING FIRM, AND SIGNS ARE TURKS ARE
ACCEPTING IT. END SUMMARY.

1. FCO PERM UNDERSEC BRIMELOW TOOK FIRM LINE WITH TURK AMB
MENEMENCIOGLU SEPT 23. HE POINTED OUT TURKS ARE FREE TO LEAVE
SBAS AND REGULARLY MOVE IN AND OUT. ONLY ISSUE IS TURKISH REQUEST
TO EVACUATE THEM BY SHIP, WHICH BRITISH CANNOT AGREE TO AT THIS TIME.
BRIMELOW TURNED DOWN MENEMENCIOGLU'S REQUEST THAT TURKS BE
TRANSFERRED TO EASTERN SBA, WHICH PARTLY CONTIGUOUS WITH TURKISH
ZONE OF MILITARY CONTROL. ALSO REFUSED MENEMENCIOGLU'S (PERSONAL?)
SUGGESTION THAT GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES BE MOVED INTO LAND VACATED
BY TURK CYPRIOTS.

2. ON LARGER REFUGEE ISSUE, MENEMENCIOGLU SAID TURKEY "CANNOT
BARGAIN OVER PEOPLE." HE SAID THERE ARE 40-50,000 TURKISH REFUGEES.

3. MENEMENCIOGLU SHOWED CONTINUING INTEREST IN VISIT BY TURKISH
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REP TO TURKISH REFUGEES IN SBA, AND THOUGHT DENKTASH PROBABLY ONLY

APPROPRIATE MAN ON ISLAND TO DO THIS.

4. BRITISH AIDE MEMOIRE HANDED MENEMENCIOGLU SPELLS OUT POSITION IN MORE DETAIL (NOTING SOME 5,000 TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAVE ALREADY FILTERED THEIR WAY TO TURKISH ZONE OF CONTROL AND REITERATING INVITATION TO DENKTASH OR MAINLAND REP TO VISIT. IT ENDS WITH QUESTION: IS TURKISH GOVT PREPARED TO ENCOURAGE DENKTASH TO JOIN CLERIDES IN A STATEMENT THAT EVERY CYPRIOT HAS IN PRINCIPLE THE RIGHT TO RETURN TO HIS HOME OR TO GO TO A PLACE OF HIS OWN CHOICE?

5. ACCORDING TO FCO'S WESTON, BARUTCU CALLED IN BRITISH COUNSELOR IN ANKARA THIS MORNING (SEPT 25) TO DISCUSS AIDE MEMOIRE. BARUTCU DID NOT RESPOND TO FINAL QUESTION. HE GAVE IMPRESSION TURKS ARE NIBBLING AT POSSIBILITY OF MAINLAND REP TO VISIT REFUGEES. WHILE MAKING IT CLEAR TURKS WISH TO GIVE APPEARANCE THEY ARE STILL WORKING ON THIS PROBLEM, BRITISH GAINED IMPRESSION ANKARA IS MORE RELAXED AND HAS ACCEPTED BRITISH POSITION THAT SOLUTION WILL REQUIRE TIME.

6. COMMENT: BRITISH HAVE ADOPTED FIRM LINE ON THIS ONE -- MAINLY BECAUSE TURKS HAVE PERMITTED THEM TO. WE SUPPOSE THIS RESULTS FROM TURKISH CALCULATION NOT TO PRESS BRITISH TOO HARD AT TIME WHEN (IN UNGA AND BACK-ROOM DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY) THERE ARE BIGGER FISH TO FRY. ANNENBERG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, HUMAN RIGHTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON12488
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740270-0628
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740916/aaaaamyw.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS: TURK REFUGEES IN SBA RE LONDON 12247 AND PREVIOUS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005